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IDEAS about 4-H Clubs and YMW

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For your information and appropriate action

Dear Coworkers:

Recently, some of us shared, through the National Conference on Juvenile Delinquency, the thinking of many national leaders engaged in programs of citizen action to alleviate juvenile delinquency. This caused us to evaluate our own programs through 4-H and to ask ourselves if we are meeting our potential in producing competent, well-adjusted young citizens. Through 4-H, ours is a positive approach. The character development and good citizenship training we're all working for are exactly the antidote to juvenile delinquency.

Be watching for the proceedings of this important conference, which will be released about October. Many of you will be invited to participate in State followup conferences on curbing juvenile delinquency--a plan somewhat similar to the effort that followed the Midcentury White House Conference on Children and Youth. All available resources will be recruited to help combat this serious problem. As you lend your support you may also be able to mobilize additional resources to strengthen 4-H.

Those who team up on this action program probably will want to get the portfolio of guides and sources of materials available as a result of the national conference. This will be available in mid-September, upon your request to the Special Juvenile Delinquency Project, c/o Children's Bureau, Washington 25, D. C.

HOW DOES 4-H LOOK TO THE LOCAL CITIZENS?

Here's one of those heart-warming expressions, an editorial in a county paper, called to our attention by a friend of 4-H:

> "The photograph in yesterday's Intelligencer of two Belmont County (Ohio) farm youngsters exhibiting a pair of purebred young beef steers serves to call public attention to one of the most useful youth organizations in the land--the 4-H Club.
>
> These two steers and 41 others will be offered for sale at the upcoming Belmont County Fair. And they represent only a small part of the amazing product of these hustling youngsters . . .

> It is difficult to overestimate the value of the 4-H Club. It is as soundly cultural and spiritual as it is commercially practicable. It is as American as corn on the cob. It has brought to the rural youth of this country an opportunity in character training, wholesome living, and practical education unmatched in an earlier generation. And in Belmont County it is at its best."

EXTENSION RESEARCH IN 4-H METHODS

The newly issued bulletin Review of Extension Research has stimulated us to some profitable thinking. The Division of Extension Research and Training, through this summary, has given us a ready-reference digest of studies completed during the year. We recommend it as well worth your detailed study.

GOOD REPORTING OF A JOB WELL DONE

Congratulations to the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work on their annual report. It's both informative and attractive. This fine presentation of work accomplished serves to emphasize the fact that 4-H is fortunate to have so many people working together to forward 4-H across the Nation.

FREEDOM'S FOUNDATION

We have supplied Mr. W. C. Sawyer, Valley Forge, Pa., of Freedom's Foundation, with a list of State 4-H Club leaders. You may be interested in arranging for reports of some of your fine community, county, or State programs to be sent to them. As you know, the foundation gives national publicity to a number of selected projects each year.

NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP CONFERENCE (September 15-17)

Representing 4-H at the National Citizenship Conference in Washington will be Claudette Moss, of Kentucky, Carolyn Caricofe, of Virginia, Tom Wagner, of Ohio, and Nicholas J. Vander Weide, of New Jersey. Miss Eloise Johnson, of South Carolina, a member of the 4-H citizenship program development committee, will be State leader representative with the group. These delegates, we feel sure, will maintain the same high caliber of participation credited to 4-H at previous citizenship conferences.

4-H IN THE NEWS

"Yard Beautification, 4-H Style" is the title of an interesting article to be in the September issue of American Home magazine. The example of Joan Downs, of New York State, is used as typical of the 4-H accomplishments of many youth. Another 4-H tribute, a pictorial article in Friends magazine (General Motors), tells about project accomplishments in raising rabbits, through the experiences of an Oregon 4-H Club member.

SEVENTH REGIONAL 4-H CLUB CAMP

The Regional 4-H Club Camp, held August 9 to 16 at Jackson, Miss., can be recorded as another highly successful 4-H event. The delegates represented 17 States. They joined in a program focused on developing their qualities of leadership and citizenship, and upon learning how to share these understandings with others. Jackson College and the entire Mississippi Extension staff were superbly hospitable. An estimated 2,000 4-H members, parents, Extension workers, and friends came from neighboring counties in 104° heat for the final public assembly on Sunday afternoon, August 15.

UN DAY OBSERVANCE

Many of you report that 4-H Clubs will be sharing in observance of United Nations Day, October 24. We understand that observance is being encouraged in towns with a population of 2,500 and under. Helpful materials are available from the United States Committee for United Nations Day, 816 21st Street NW., Washington 6, D. C. Another reference recommended to us is a book entitled "United Nations Plays and Programs," available on a purchase basis.

APPOINTMENT TO 4-H SUBCOMMITTEE AND FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Henry M. Hansen, associate director of extension work in Connecticut, has been appointed to fill the 2-year unexpired term of Director Walter Brown, who recently retired. Mr. Hansen will also serve on the National 4-H Club Foundation Board of Trustees, filling the unexpired term of Director L. R. Simons, of New York, who retired July 1.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EXTENSION WORK WITH YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN

This committee emphasized farm and home development work for young married couples, when they met in Washington on July 20-21. The committee pointed out that, "Young married couples getting started in farming have urgent need for assistance in production, management, credit, and family life problems. Likewise, there are prime needs of young people, as yet unmarried, for help with family partnerships, inheritance laws and customs, and off-the-farm business training." The committee further stressed the need for educational work in the fields of marketing and public policy discussions, for young adults.

CONTINUATION OF FILM DISCUSSION SERIES

The National 4-H Club Foundation has announced plans for the continuation of its experimental discussion programs in 1954-55. The "World Affairs" and "Great Men" film discussion series have been tested by more than 50 groups of young men and women over the past 2 years. These series will continue to be available to interested groups.

Major emphasis will be given this fall and winter to testing four new series of programs under the following titles:

1. Ways of Mankind - 10 programs using written articles for group member reading, recordings of long-playing records for group listening at each meeting, and a discussion leader's guide.

2. Jefferson and Our Times - 10 programs with the same conbination of materials.

3. Problems of Law and Justice - six programs, same materials.

4. Your Money and Your Life - 10 programs on inflation and deflation and other basic economic factors affecting our daily lives. No films or recordings required.

The foundation is desirous of establishing a minimum of 15 groups to test each of the foregoing topics. In addition, experiments will be conducted with a limited number of groups on the topic "You and Your Community," and a five-program film series entitled "Looking at Marriage."

More detailed information about these programs is being sent by the foundation direct to State extension directors and State 4-H Club and YMW leaders. Interested State leaders should correspond with W. W. Eure.

CONFERENCE OF IFYE ALUMNI

The third annual conference of former International Farm Youth Exchange delegates will be themed to "Peace for Your Land and Mine." Time and place are August 26-29 at Rock Springs Ranch, 4-H center in Kansas.

The alumni conference is being held in conjunction with the midpoint meeting of many of the IFYE exchangees visiting the United States. The groups will hold several combined sessions.

PARTICIPATION IN Y.O.A. CONFERENCE IN 1955

Again this year, the 4-H Clubs are among the groups cooperating with the Izaak Walton League of America, Inc., for a youth conference on conservation resources and needs.

The first conference of Young Outdoor Americans was held in Chicago in March 1954. Approximately 20 4-H Club members, representing as many States, were chosen to participate in the conference to share ideas with other young people, and to discuss ways in which youth could cooperate in helping to conserve our human and natural resources. Plans are now under way for an even greater participation in 1955.

WELCOME TO DAIRY JUDGES

Dean and Director George Worrilow, of Delaware, speaker at the welcome-home dinner for the United States 4-H dairy judging team from Maryland, compared his own early dairy cattle judging experiences with those of the 1954 team. Dr. Worrilow was a member of a similar team representing the United States in 1923. In his comments emphasizing the values of the activity, he cited it as another way to increase international understanding and good will between nations. The dinner was sponsored by the National Milk Producers Federation and was attended by many important officials from the Washington area, including Congressman Clifford Hope, of Kansas, and the newly appointed Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Earl Butz.

Team members and coaches were enthusiastic about their experiences as they reported their visits to the Royal Show, outstanding dairy farms, points of historical interest, and their associations with members of the Young Farmers Federation.

A.I.C.

Twenty-four States named 4-H Club members to receive the American Institute of Cooperation scholarships, which cover partial expenses of attendance at the 26th annual meeting of the Institute at Cornell University.

Marion Keating, a 4-H Club member, of West Trenton, N. J., and David Boyne, national president of F.F.A., served as cochairmen of the youth program. It was an inspirational experience to see rural youth of many States, representing different organizations, join together in their attempt to learn more about cooperatives and their place in American agriculture. A new program feature of youth tours to farms and cooperatives was very popular and successful.

MANY ORDERS FOR FLANNELGRAPHS

We are gratified to learn from Howard McClarren that 25 States have purchased 547 of the flannelgraphs explaining the four ways of doing farm business in America. A bulletin about this visual aid was enclosed with the Ideas letter in April.

JUNIOR POULTRY FACT-FINDING CONFERENCE

Suggested dates for 1955 are February 11 to 13 in Kansas City. Early indications are that the conference will follow quite closely the pattern established last year. Advance plans indicate that 20 States will have 4-H member participants.

This is a unique event, planned to enable youth to more fully know and appreciate the vast scope of the poultry industry.

Two States reported recently that the 1954 conference was directly responsible for three boys enrolling in poultry science at land-grant colleges.

RURAL YOUTH OF THE USA CONFERENCE

"Grass Roots Explorations" -- of the local community, family living, agricultural enterprises, and international relations--will be the order of the day when hundreds of young people from all over the U.S.A. assemble at Jackson's Mill, W. Va., October 7-10, 1954.

We have word from Minnesota that a number of young folks are planning to combine this trip with a tour of the Nation's Capital.

LITERATURE LIST

A list is enclosed of all 4-H and YMW publications now available through the Federal Extension Service. We do this for two purposes-- to alert you to materials available and to invite your suggestions as to where our printing resources would be best used. You would know that anything issued from here must be of general interest, must be something that States cannot readily supply for themselves, and is primarily of a training or information nature. With that in mind, we invite and hope for your guidance.

Parent and Family Life Publications List

Mrs. Lydia Ann Lynde, of our Federal Extension staff, makes the enclosed list available for your use. We are glad to note an increase in the number of 4-H bulletins in this area. This confirms our feeling that more attention is being given. Many of the bulletins listed are usable in all phases of Extension programs.

FOR CHILD CARE PROJECTS

States with 4-H child care projects may want to check material in the August issue of Woman's Day magazine. Look at the article, It's a Lovely Rainy Day. Also note the digest of information for play directors. Mrs. Lydia Ann Lynde, our extension specialist in parent and family life education, concurs in the suggestion that we call this material to your attention.

BULLETINS ON KNITTING

If you have a knitting project and would like some bulletin helps, will you get in touch with us. We shall be glad to send you an informational copy of each so you can examine them and then order if you choose. These are offered by a woman's magazine.

PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

This time the request is to you. A State has written us for samples of 4-H photographic projects as guides for their own preparation. We have no reports available to help us check source. Do you have such publications you would be willing to share in this way?

4-H SUIT DRESS

McCall's now joins Simplicity and Advance Pattern Companies in listing the 4-H suit dress. Note that they have it designed in teenage and junior sizes. Have you noted, also, that McCall's has an adaptation of the 4-H suit dress, sized for a 14- or a 16-inch doll.

SHARING SOME OF THE GOOD IDEAS FROM THE STATES

From all corners of the country come reports about JUNIOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING CAMPS. Here is a quick look at four of them, typical of many more.

ILLINOIS - 15th Annual

Qualities of leadership and service, plus an outstanding 4-H record, were the credentials for the 400 delegates. Edna Troth and Leonard Harkness (Indiana and Minnesota) were visitors who brought stimulating challenges. An interesting session featured a 4-H member or alumnus from each of the past 14 conferences.

KANSAS - Planned by a "continuation" committee of youth and adults. The base of the program consisted of special-interest groups in home management, human relations, recreation, home beautification, junior leadership techniques, and recreational events.

MISSISSIPPI - A first-time venture, highly successful.

Three hundred junior leaders shared workshops, subject-matter training, and other activities. Director Clay Lyle helped to challenge the 4-H conferees to understand how to develop in themselves and others the qualities of democratic leadership. Others participating in the conference stressed the importance of junior leadership.

SOUTH DAKOTA - Another good first-time event.

"Helping Ourselves To Help Others" - the challenging theme. Camp format included time for general training in "My Job as a Junior Leader" and "Youth's Place in Community Leadership," plus a workshop experience chosen from recreation, music, demonstrations, safety, or electricity. Crafts and other recreation, of course.

FROM TWO STATES - BULLETINS OF INTEREST IN YMW ACTIVITIES

COLORADO - A really glamorous one.

Congratulations to Les Osborn and the Colorado Extension Service on the new booklet "Your Future..? A Message to Colorado's Young Farmers and Homemakers." This evolved partially from graduate study and a thesis problem worked out by Les Osborn. Colorado has been particularly successful in working out programs with young married couples. In our opinion these programs have a direct and important relationship to the farm and home development idea.

WISCONSIN - YMW Extension statement.

Bruce Cartter and committee have prepared a very fine statement on the YMW program in Wisconsin. Copies have been mailed to each State extension director. A State committee of nine serves in advisory capacity to YMW programs under the chairmanship of Karl Shoemaker.

EDUCATIONAL TOURS, as awards for outstanding 4-H work, are growing in popularity. Here are a couple of recent examples:

IOWA - State 4-H poultry tour.

An innovation is the tour for outstanding young people in the poultry laying-flock projects. Stops were made at poultry farms and plants in four counties, where brooding and growing operations were explained.

WEST VIRGINIA - Strawberry marketing tour.

County representatives who had made high records in strawberry production had the opportunity to follow their products to the wholesale fruit and vegetable market at Pittsburgh. The tour also included stops at West Virginia University, at a processing plant, a department store, and a ball game.

FROM ALMOST EVERY STATE, WE COULD REPORT PROGRESS IN CAMPING PROGRAMS. For instance:

NEVADA - Practice in citizenship.

State 4-H Club Camp at Lake Tahoe is a working example of democracy in action. The young people organize themselves along the same lines as those of a city government. Residents of the junior city find it educational to make and enforce their own laws, to make recommendations for improving program and facilities, and to conduct their spirited elections.

INDIANA - Dental clinics at 4-H Camps.

A mobile dental clinic, featured at 4-H camps, has meant that thousands of 4-H'ers have received dental inspections and advice on proper oral care.

Also about health: Health and safety officers of 4-H Clubs in Indiana have available a guide full of suggestions about maintaining and improving their own health and the health of their families. Nutrition, physical examinations, dental health, highway safety, and fire fighting are a few of the subjects worked on in recent years. A definite health project is also being prepared and tested in 14 counties.

NEW MEXICO - Event of long standing.

The thirtieth New Mexico 4-H Club Encampment was recently completed. One of the highlight features was consideration of Progress in World Understanding, where participants were Humayum Akhtar and Gene Duke, IFYE's from and to Pakistan, and Director Robert A. Nichols, who has been a world traveler.

SOUTH CAROLINA - Members help provide camp facilities.

About a year ago, the white boys and girls set out to raise $50,000 for improvement of their two camps--Camp Long and Camp Cooper. They have now raised practically all of this amount. The State Legislature added generously to the funds raised by 4-H'ers, and many new facilities are now available or in prospect.

OTHER GOOD IDEAS

ALASKA - 4-H paper during Roundup.

A daily news sheet at 4-H Roundup was a helpful new feature this year. It gave the opportunity for additional training, since all the reporters on the paper held that office in their own 4-H Clubs.

CONNECTICUT - How's this for judging procedure?

New Haven County is trying out a plan where each girl in the 4-H dress revue scores herself on the progress she has made. In advance, the participants receive check sheets, which they fill out and bring to the revue. Then, the "judging committee" serves to consult with girls about problems they met, progress made, or future plans. For the initial experience, the judging committee did agree upon three girls to represent the county in the State revue. However, they and the girls seemed to think that the youth might do that at future events. Enclosed are a more detailed account and copies of the check sheets.

KENTUCKY - An across-the-border exchange.

Twenty-two Utopia (Older 4-H) Club members have just returned from an educational experience which took them to St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada, and intermediate points. Delegates represented seven different counties.

MINNESOTA-MISSISSIPPI - Exchange.

This was the year for 27 Minnesota 4-H travelers to observe, at first hand, the farm life in Mississippi. In looking back on the experiences of the group, Bernard Beadle comments that "The trip was worth a year of school to the exchangees." Mississippi folks are equally enthusiastic about their alternate yearly visits to Minnesota.

NEW YORK - Telling the 4-H story.

Several counties have purchased admatic slide projectors which they use to tell the 4-H story. These display machines are in use many weeks during the year in bank lobbies, store windows, schools, fairs, and other points where people congregate.

STAFF CHANGES

Dr. Earl L. Butz, recently appointed Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, was once a farm boy and one of Indiana's delegates to National 4-H Club Camp in Washington, D. C.

Otto C. Croy, who will soon join the Federal Extension staff as assistant to the Administrator, has served as assistant State 4-H Club leader, district supervisor, and assistant director on the Ohio staff.

The Division of Information Programs has two new appointees on the job since July 1. Mrs. Catherine W. Beauchamp is succeeding Clara Ackerman as editor of the Extension Service Review. Mrs. Beauchamp was formerly with the United States Public Health Service. The other information specialist is Bryan Phifer, who comes from Missouri. Bryan's many qualifications include being a former 4-H Club member.

Clara Ackerman has been a strong supporter of 4-H through the columns of the Extension Service Review and other magazine contacts. She will join her husband, George Ackerman, former extension photographer, in retirement soon.

Charlotte Conoway, of Maryland, newly appointed assistant State 4-H Club agent, feels fully initiated since one of her first duties was helping with State 4-H Club Week. Charlotte has a successful record as an assistant home demonstration agent.

New York has two announcements. Ruth Ann Seacord, who has just completed a year as a 4-H fellow, began State work on August 16. Joseph McAuliffe, who is anticipating a year as a 4-H Fellow, is announced as a July 1, 1955, appointee to the New York State staff. Both Ruth and Joe have served in county 4-H agent positions.

G. L. Carter, Jr., new on the North Carolina State staff, replaces Oscar H. Phillips, recent retiree. "G. L." is well known throughout all the South for his good work as youth editor of an agricultural paper, and for his song leading.

Elizabeth Zellner, who is resigning to be married after 11 years of work with Georgia 4-H boys and girls, was made an honorary Master member in that State. Elizabeth and W. A. Sutton, formerly State 4-H leader and now associate director, were presented with special plaques at the State 4-H Council meeting. These were in appreciation for leadership given to the 4-H program.

NATIONAL 4-H LEADER IN THE PHILIPPINES

Recently, we had the pleasure of conferring with Mr. Nicauor M. del Rosario, recently appointed National 4-H Leader in the Philippines. He was high in his praise of the good work that Harper Johnson (formerly of Mississippi) has done in establishing patterns for 4-H. Mr. del Rosario is studying 4-H methods in Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Puerto Rico.

Sincerely yours,

E. W. Aiton

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Enclosures